

**To:** Bahrman, Sarah[Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov]  
**From:** Mohr, Mindy  
**Sent:** Thur 8/6/2015 8:15:06 PM  
**Subject:** RE: mine blowout near Silverton, CO

Bob Brobst is panicking as to whether Durango is getting help. Now we are hearing that they need the Animas for DW, cannot just keep intake shut.

I left voicemail for Tyson Ingels on his cell asking status...Jennifer Robinett has not responded....the OSCs are sending Pete Stevenson down to help on treatment/sampling issues, he gets to Durango tonight.

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Mindy Mohr, Acting Unit B Chief

Drinking Water

303-312-6525

cell 720-471-4443

mohr.mindy@epa.gov

FAX 1-877-876-9101

**From:** Bahrman, Sarah  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 06, 2015 1:29 PM  
**To:** Mohr, Mindy  
**Subject:** Re: mine blowout near Silverton, CO

Thanks, Mindy! I'm free and available on my cell until 2 if you need anything. Personal Phone/Ex. 6

On Aug 6, 2015, at 1:02 PM, Mohr, Mindy <[Mohr.Mindy@epa.gov](mailto:Mohr.Mindy@epa.gov)> wrote:

Yes Sarah and I are tag teaming.

Mindy

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 6, 2015, at 12:59 PM, Restivo, Angela <[Restivo.Angela@epa.gov](mailto:Restivo.Angela@epa.gov)> wrote:

Yes, I received an email about this a few minutes ago and will be giving the Drinking Water Bureau a heads up.

I have been directed to provide Sarah as the point of contact should they have additional questions.

Please let me know if I should have them contact someone else.

Thanks so much for checking with me.

Angela

**From:** Mohr, Mindy  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 06, 2015 1:54 PM  
**To:** Restivo, Angela  
**Subject:** FW: mine blowout near Silverton, CO  
**Importance:** High

Angela, we haven't heard back from Blake or James...wanted to make sure you were aware of this.

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Mindy Mohr, Acting Unit B Chief

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**From:** Bahrman, Sarah  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 06, 2015 11:39 AM  
**To:** Atkins, Blake; Brown, Jamesr  
**Cc:** Mohr, Mindy  
**Subject:** mine blowout near Silverton, CO  
**Importance:** High

Hi Blake and Jim –

I wanted to share the notice we got from our emergency response folks about a mine blowout yesterday afternoon near Silverton, CO, and a release of at least a million gallons of orange water to Upper Cement Creek and to the Animas River. Water is continuing to release from the mine at a slower rate.

As the Animas flows into New Mexico, I wanted you to be aware and have a chance to contact your counterparts in NM. The EOC here is trying to get better sense of travel times, but don't have a good sense of that yet. We will share more info as it becomes available.

Thanks,  
Sarah

Sarah E. Bahrman | Acting Director, Water Program | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 8

(p) 303.312.6243 | (c) 303.903.8515 | (f) 877.876.9101

**From:** Mylott, Richard  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 05, 2015 4:18 PM  
**To:** Bahrman, Sarah; Card, Joan  
**Subject:** FW: E-mail #2 Animal River: CDPHE Spills Tracking System Data Entry Form 2015-0492

Fyi. Email below refers to downstream water users notified.

**From:** R8 RRC  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 05, 2015 2:45 PM  
**To:** Ostrander, David; Mylott, Richard  
**Subject:** E-mail #2 Animal River: CDPHE Spills Tracking System Data Entry Form 2015-0492

**From:** Schaffer - CDPHE, Tom [mailto:[tom.schaffer@state.co.us](mailto:tom.schaffer@state.co.us)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 05, 2015 1:39 PM  
**To:** Nedrow - CDPHE, Ann  
**Cc:** Michelle Thiebaud - CDPHE; David Kurz - CDPHE; Casey Kay - CDPHE; Heather Drissel - CDPHE; Carol Keever - CDPHE; Tony Waldron - DNR; Tom Kaldenbach - DNR; Russ Means - DNR; Rob Beierle - CDPHE; Edward Smith - CDPHE; Caren Johannes - CDPHE; Susan Newton - CDPHE; Kathryn Stewart - CDPHE; David Foster - CDPHE; Melynda May - DNR; Doug Krieger - DNR; John Alves - DNR; Jim White - DNR; Eric Gardunio - DNR; Matt Thorpe - DNR; Renzo Delpiccolo - DNR; Becky Joyce; Lois MacKenzie; [norma@sjchealth.org](mailto:norma@sjchealth.org); [laila@sjchealth.org](mailto:laila@sjchealth.org); gregbrand; Elisabeth Lawaczeck; jaustin; [greg.stasinos@state.co.us](mailto:greg.stasinos@state.co.us); [troy.arnold@state.co.us](mailto:troy.arnold@state.co.us); jason king; jennifer robbins; david banas; dan miller; [bruce.holloman@state.co.us](mailto:bruce.holloman@state.co.us); Cory Stark - CDPS; david.osborn; Kevin Kuretich; Paul Eller - CDPS; Riley Frazee - CDPS; Trevor Denney - CDPS; [chuck.vale@state.co.us](mailto:chuck.vale@state.co.us); R8 RRC  
**Subject:** Re: CDPHE Spills Tracking System Data Entry Form 2015-0492

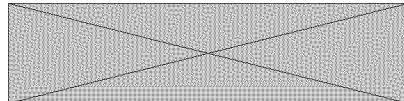
Just talked to John Sites with the Town of Silverton. They do not take out of that fork of Cement Creek, so they are ok. He did say that the creek is opaque orange. We have notified all other downstream users that we can identify, including Town of Durango, San Juan Basin Health, Glacier View (Cameron), Animas Water Co. and Colorado Rural Water (they are currently working on a watershed plan for that area and may

have a mailing list of users).

**Tom Schaffer, PE**

Senior Field Engineer

Field Services Section



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24-hr Environmental Release/Incident Report Line 877-518-5608

On Wed, Aug 5, 2015 at 1:13 PM, Nedrow - CDPHE, Ann <[ann.nedrow@state.co.us](mailto:ann.nedrow@state.co.us)> wrote:

Attached is a report for San Juan County, headed for Silverton, of a mine blowout and release of at least a million gallons of orange water to Upper Cement Creek and to the Animas River. Water is continuing to release from the mine at a slower rate.

DRMS requested that WQ assist with notification of downstream users, and Tom Schaffer has begun this process.

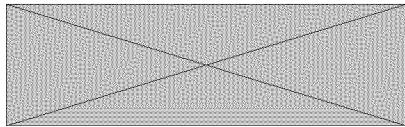
Thank you,

Ann

Ann Nedrow

Daytime Coordinator, Emergency and Incident Reporting Line

Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response



P 303.692.2709 | F 303.691.7811 |

4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, C-2, Denver, CO 80246

Ann.Nedrow@State.Co.Us | www.colorado.gov/

**24-hour Colorado Emergency and Incident Reporting Line: 1-877-518-5608**